

# Casemate

**Spotlight**  
*Event*

## Stars trample NCOs

The Monroe officer's team upped their win-loss record to 4-1 after a 15-7 victory over the Stripes.

..... Photos, Page 12

Vol. 26, No. 17

Published for the community of Fort Monroe

August 27, 2004

## Post parents feel effects of 'No Child Left Behind' law

**BY PATRICIA RADCLIFFE**  
CASEMATE STAFF WRITER

Several dozen Fort Monroe parents witnessed the power of the Bush administration's "No Child Left Behind Act" earlier this month.

Because a local elementary school once again fell short of the state-mandated requirement for a set number of children to pass key Standards of Learning exams, the parents of 78 students residing on post and zoned for that school were given the option of remaining at their current school or transferring to one of two other schools in the area with transportation provided.

"This is one of the first local examples of a school (in Virginia) carrying out this requirement," said Charlie French, Fort Monroe School Liaison Officer.

See SCHOOL, Page 3

## What's Inside

### Local store helps deployed Soldiers

A Fort Monroe officer is teaming up with a local 7-Eleven to bring news to troops in Afghanistan.

..... Page 8

### Gazebo celebrates 70th

Fort Monroe's main entertainment center has withstood the test of time and mother nature.

..... Page 10

### Index

Chaplain's Corner	2
News Clips	4
MP Roll Call	7
Sports & Health	12
Moat Notes	14
Movie Schedule	14



Photo by Patricia Radcliffe

**Jaily and Jordan Baker prepare for a final inventory of supplies as they face the return to school Sept. 7. The youngsters live on post and will be attending Bryan Elementary in Hampton. Monroe motorists are asked to use extra caution during school pick-up and drop-off times, and to practice proper safety procedures when approaching a school bus that's taking on or discharging passengers.**

## Monroe hosts bay preservation hearing

**BY PATRICK BUFFETT**  
CASEMATE STAFF WRITER

Required measures to restore the health of the Chesapeake Bay was the topic of a special field hearing of the House Government Reform Committee Aug. 20 at Fort Monroe's Bay Breeze Community Center.

Virginia congressman Ed Schrock and reform committee chairman Tom Davis were among those presiding over the two-hour session. Among the "witnesses" testifying at the hearing were: the Honorable W. Taylor Murphy, Jr., Secretary of Natural Resources for the Commonwealth of Virginia; Rebecca Hanmer, director of the Chesapeake Bay Program; experts

*"The Chesapeake Bay is an ecosystem in crisis. Large 'dead zones' – areas of low dissolved oxygen that suffocate and kill native aquatic life – plague the Bay every summer."*

**Chairman Tom Davis**

Committee on Government Reform

from the fields of marine and environmental science; and representatives from the Virginia Seafood Council and Eastern Shore Watermen's Association.

"The Chesapeake Bay is an ecosystem in crisis," Davis said in his written opening remarks to the assembly.

"Large 'dead zones' – areas of low dissolved oxygen that suffocate and kill native aquatic life – plague the Bay every summer."

Making note of recent media reports that focused attention on apparent inconsistencies between progress reported and actual progress made in cleaning up the Bay, Smith said the purpose of the hearing was to "clear the air" over the Chesapeake Bay Program's modeling and monitoring procedures.

"We also want to get a status update from those on the front lines of the battle to save the Bay and learn what, if anything, Congress can do to

See BAY, Page 3

All Fort Monroe Post Exchange facilities, to include the Shoppette, will be closed Sept. 6 in observance of Labor Day



"It's not easy to admit to the existence of one's own little fox."

# Little things can be very destructive

**H**ave you ever felt a discomfort when putting on your shoes? You know, like something nagging at the bottom of your feet. Every time you take a step, you could feel this little irritating something and it seemed like it would drive you out of your mind.

At first you try to ignore it, but the more you try, the worst it irritates you. So, to get some relief you take off your shoes to remove any object that could be causing discomfort.

To your amazement you discover small grains of sand or pebbles in the bottom of your shoes. This is what was causing so much discomfort. What a relief! You remove it and now the walk is easier.

This reminds me of what the writer of the Song of Songs, King Solomon, penned in Chapter 2:15. "Catch for us the foxes the

## Chaplain's Corner



**Lt. Col. Wilbert Harrison**  
Post Chaplain

little foxes that ruin the vineyards, our vineyards that are in bloom."

It is these little foxes in our lives that ruin the good in us.

Psalms 90:8 says, "Thou hast set our iniquities before thee, our secret sins in the light of thy countenance."

The little foxes are the secret sins we harbor inside. These are hidden sins. Most

of the time we are unable to detect these sins in our lives and will admit them only when we are caught or when others find out about them.

It's not easy to admit to the existence of one's own little fox. After all we like to think of ourselves as good people, but the truth of the matter is there is good, but there is also a constant battle to defeat the little fox inside.

We are sinners in need of God's forgiveness and grace and there are little foxes in our lives that make us miserable. The only way to rid ourselves of these irritating foxes is to depend upon God's grace to remove them.

The Apostle Paul put it another way in Hebrews 12:1, "We should remove from our lives anything that would get in the way and the sin that so easily holds us back."

There are habits, addictions and things in the past

that can keep a person from living the way God intends for people to live.

Here are some things you can do to get rid of little foxes in your life.

First, look at yourself in a mirror. I mean literally go and stare into the mirror and admit that you have "little foxes" in your life and they are causing you and others lots of pain.

Second, take a moment to write down and name the foxes that are destroying your life and the impact they have on you. They can make you feel and look bad before people who care about and love you.

Third, ask God to give you the courage to face and remove them. This is a great challenge; but, remember you are not alone. God is with you as you face the little foxes in life that seek to ruin you.

Fourth, obey and trust God. To the best of your ability, always seek to do

what is right. God will honor you for your efforts. God knows that none of us is perfect and we all have things about us that can be down right ugly, but the truth is that God loves us the same, even though he hates the evil we do.

Remember, the next time you put on your shoes and you feel something on the bottom of your feet and you know it is not supposed to be there and it becomes irritating, you may want to ask yourself, "Is what I'm feeling inside my shoes like the little foxes that are trying to ruin the good in me?"

If the answer is yes, then you already know what you have to do.

Pray to God to remove them and ask God's Spirit to come into your life to give you a new walk so that you will no longer be hindered by those little irritating foxes in your life. They seek to ruin and destroy the good God has created in you.

The success of this new column totally depends upon story recommendations from parents

## New Casemate column focuses on student success

**T**he many contributions of school-age youth in our community will be the focus of a new column the Casemate hopes to run regularly throughout the coming academic year.

Titled "Student Spotlight," the column will highlight the wide range of achievements by elementary, middle and high school students of the Fort Monroe community. Specifically, the newspaper will seek out the most accomplished youths in the areas of academics, sports and community service.

Unique student awards, out of the ordinary

extracurricular activities, and voluntary participation in community programs that focus on history, conservation, neighborhood improvement, caring for the elderly, etc., are just some of the endeavors worthy of this special recognition.

The success of this new column totally depends upon story recommendations by parents or other community members.

If you know of a student who truly performs "above and beyond" his or her peers, give the newspaper staff a call or send them an email with the subject's name, a brief explanation of the achievement and con-

tact information for the nominee's parents or a guardian.

The Casemate editor will determine the level of coverage based on the significance of the accomplishment. Most stories will require an interview and photographs of the subject. Any individual who submits a student's name for recognition may also include photographs, however, they must be of high quality (in focus, well-lit, and high resolution) and action shots are always preferred over posed photos.

All interviews and photo shoots will be coordinated with a parent or guardian,

as well as final clearance of any stories that are written.

The Casemate will conclude this series at the end of each school year with a final tribute to graduating high school seniors within the Fort Monroe community. Parents and community members who know of a graduating senior within the Monroe family are asked to keep that final column in mind and submit the information that will be requested by the Casemate after January 2005.

For further information or to nominate a subject, call 788-3520/3208/3531 or email: casemate@monroe.army.mil.

## Labor Day Safety

**While Labor Day weekend marks the unofficial end of the summer vacation season, it is also a time when increased traffic collisions occur with serious and often fatal injuries.**

**Precautions that contribute to a safe trip should be observed by making safe and legal driving choices, obeying posted speed limits, using seatbelts and being cooperative and courteous.**

**I wish every member of the Fort Monroe team a safe and pleasurable holiday.**

**Col. Perry D. Allmendinger**  
Garrison Commander

### Fort Monroe Editorial Staff

Commander . . . . . Col. Perry D. Allmendinger  
Public Affairs Officer . . . . . Nancy Popejoy  
Editor . . . . . Patrick Buffett  
Assistant Editor . . . . . Patricia Radcliffe  
Editorial assistant . . . . . Belinda Baker

**The CASEMATE** ® Building 27, Fort Monroe, VA 23651-1032; (757) 788-3520/3208/3531; email: casemate@monroe.army.mil; or FAX (757) 788-2404; Casemate Online: http://www.monroe.army.mil/casemate/

## Casemate

This Army newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the Department of Defense. Contents of the Casemate are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, or the Department of the Army. The editorial content of this publication is the responsibility of Fort Monroe Headquarters. Printed by Military Newspapers of Virginia, Inc., a private firm in no way connected with the the

U.S. Government under exclusive written contract with Headquarters, Fort Monroe. Printed circulation: 5,000.

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the U.S. Army, or Military Newspapers of Virginia for the products or services advertised.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use, or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation, or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user, or patron. If a violation or rejection of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser is confirmed, the publisher shall refuse to print advertising from that source until the violation is corrected.

### Military Newspapers of Virginia

#### Peninsula Office:

728 Blue Crab Road, Suite C  
Newport News, VA 23606  
(757) 596-0853/FAX (757) 596-1473

#### Norfolk Office:

2509 Walmer Avenue  
Norfolk, VA 23513  
(757) 857-1212/FAX (757) 853-1634

**BAY** Continued from Page 1*"It is clear that both political will and strengthened financial commitment are necessary."*

help," Smith said.

Schrock echoed similar comments in his written opening remarks. "Policy makers ... must know exactly where we are now and precisely the means necessary to achieve our goal of healing the Bay," he said.

"The purpose of today's hearing is to learn more about what the actual state of the Bay really is, how the Bay's health affects our region, and how to best evaluate it. I firmly believe that before we can legitimately tackle the huge task of saving the Bay, we must establish this necessary framework before we can implement the right solutions."

The Bay's environmental woes also include run-off from deforestation and new construction, according to testimony offered up during the session. Silt buries native clam beds – thus preventing a natural filter of pollutants. Nitrogen and phosphorous from sewage treatment plants, agricultural industry and urban sprawl has also done significant damage by promoting the overgrowth of algae that robs oxygen from the water and creates the "dead zones" alluded to by Smith.

"The once clear, shallow waters of the Bay are now turbid, and the submerged grasses that once flourished there, providing critical habitat for juvenile fish and crabs, are

60 percent less abundant than they were 40 to 50 years ago," Linda C. Schaffner, Ph.D., Associate Professor with the Virginia Institute of Marine Science also stated in her written testimony.

"It is clear that both political will and strengthened financial commitment are necessary," Schaffner also wrote. "We need the public and all of our elected representatives to recognize the true value of the Chesapeake Bay to the nation."

Hanmer described the challenges that lie ahead as "enormous."

"Increased population and development within the watershed have created ever-greater challenges for us in Bay restoration," she said in her written testimony. "By most of the key measures that we use to evaluate the health of the Bay, we are less than half way to where we need to be."

Other testimony delved into the complicated process of monitoring Bay pollution levels and promoting healthy plant growth along the waterway. Another expert discussed the introduction of non-native clam beds to promote natural water filtration.

The experts also highlighted the benefits of "soft shore" flood barriers that use natural plant growth to prevent erosion – similar to the earthen berms that separate Fort

Monroe from the waters of Mill Creek.

A reform committee representative said Fort Monroe was randomly chosen from several possible locations in the Hampton Roads area for the hearing. By holding field sessions in varying locations, the committee gets a better feel for regional and local issues.

"To many, the Chesapeake Bay is a body whose waters and watershed are a backyard, a business, a beloved home, a playground,"

Schrock summarized in a press release about the hearing.

"A visit to the Eastern Shore, or to the Island of Tangier ... an observation of the time and energy invested in a waterman's way of life ... are true life examples of communities and people who depend on the Bay for their livelihood," he continued. "And that our Bay is impaired is of particular concern to me, not only as the Representative for Hampton Roads, but as a resident of this area as well."



Photo by Patrick Buffett

**Virginia Congressman Ed Schrock, right, welcomes the participants of a special field hearing of the House Government Reform Committee Aug. 20 at the Bay Breeze Community Center. Also pictured is Tom Davis, chairman of the government reform committee.**

**SCHOOL** Continued from Page 1*"It is the most significant education legislation we've ever had."*

"The Hampton City School's administration is taking a very proactive stand in offering school choice, even before the assessment data was confirmed by the Virginia Department of Education."

Enforced for the first time since the No Child Left Behind Act was signed into law in January 2002, the school choice option applies to schools that receive "Title 1" money for disadvantaged youth. Those schools have to meet up to 35 requirements to achieve "adequate yearly progress," or AYP.

In Virginia, the main AYP yardstick for elementary schools is the SOL given in grades 3 and 5. A certain percentage of the students tested have to pass in key areas like math and English. They are assessed in categories of race and ethnicity, disability and socio-economic status of students. At least 95 percent of the students in each category must have taken the exam.

"In the case of Bryan Elementary School here locally, the criteria the decision was based on doesn't mean it's a failing school," French said. "It is now classified, 'In Need of Improvement,' but is still giving an adequate education, and I fully support our kids going there."

"The new law simply says students have to be offered the opportunity to attend an alternative of a school that didn't meet the AYP requirements for all groups for two consecutive years," French added.

If a school falls below the standard for a third consecutive year, it must offer free private tutoring. Neither French nor Hampton City School officials believe that is likely to happen, as positive efforts are being implemented to improve the quality of education and shortfalls identified at Jane Bryan Elementary.

"This is a very important issue, and parents of school-aged children throughout our community

should stay abreast of what's occurring because it's going to have a big impact on schools, newly staffed programs, and classroom assistance both here and across the nation," French said.

On the national scene, all 50 states now have implemented performance-based accountability measures that aim to improve the overall academics of their schools, according to French. All states test at least math and reading once in 3rd and 5th grade, another time in grades 6-9, and once in grades 10-12. The NCLB act requires each state test at each grade be aligned to the state standards for that subject at that level.

More than half of the states have developed an exit exam or end of course exam required for graduation and earning a diploma. This can be difficult for all students, but French — speaking on behalf of the 55,000 military-connected children in Hampton Roads — said each time military families move, their students encounter different curriculums or standards, different assessments, different ways of measuring progress, different reports to learn, and different definitions of highly qualified teachers.

"The challenge for the mobile military child is there is no requirement that these tests be aligned with tests in other states," French said.

"Hopefully, parents, especially military parents, will realize these are issues that can be worked out over time," French said. "What's more important is the overall goal of the No Child Left Behind Act. It is the most significant education legislation we've ever had. It really has teeth in it."

No Child Left Behind is a constructive effort to focus nationwide attention on raising student achievement, especially for categories of historically lower achieving students whose low performance has been overlooked or tolerated in the

past, French explained. AYP offers a federal framework to provide accountability and criteria for improvement, while giving states the latitude to set their own standards and select their own tests.

"In a situation like Bryan Elementary, parents need to be asking themselves, 'What is changing at the school that will improve student achievement so that the school performance next year will meet the standard?'" French said.

Parents should also be aware that the Title I school is required to have "highly qualified" teachers of core academic subjects. "Students deserve to have teachers who are certified in the area they teach. Good teaching is good teaching," French said.

"Students will now have a better chance of being instructed by highly qualified teachers and para-professionals," he added. "Furthermore, Virginia, like all states, is working to align their assessments to the curriculum and establish meaningful performance levels. Academic performance probably won't improve if what is taught is not linked to what is tested."

Also a strong advocate of Virginia's Standards of Learning, French said he understands the difficulties some teachers and parents have experienced adapting to the mandatory requirement. "However, the end result is that our children are learning more essential information, being exposed to better teaching techniques, and receiving a higher quality of education from child centered classrooms," he said. "The SOL tests are really only a necessary evil, or a small bump in the road, to a good public education."

French said he is available to discuss school concerns and how parents, civilian employees, and military members can help out in the local schools. He can be reached at 788-4673 or by email: charles.french@monroe.army.mil.



# NewsClips

**Soldier Appreciation Day will be held Sept. 2 at picnic area 5 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. In case of inclement weather, it will be moved to the Bay Breeze Community Center. Call Sgt. 1st Class Nelson Gomez at 788-3339 for more information.**

## September 11 observance

A service to remember the 9-11 incidents will be held at the Chapel of the Centurion, Sept. 11 at 8:46 a.m. It will last about an hour, but the Chapel will remain open until 11 a.m. for

prayer and reflection. For more information, call the post Chaplain's office at 788-2611.

## Tutor position opens at CAC

A math and English tutor is needed for Youth Services on post. Anyone interested in the posi-

tion should go to the NAF personnel office in building 82, third floor.

## Armed Forces voters week

The Secretary of Defense has decreed that Sept. 3 to 11 is Armed Forces Voters Week (AFVW). It is the last really safe week to register via a Federal Post Card Application (FPCA), SF-76 and ensure it is processed in time for November elections. The AFVW goal is to attain 100 percent contact and availability of FPCAs for all personnel. Unit voting assistance officers will continue to help get folks registered.

Contact your unit voting assistance officer or Sgt. 1st Class Teruse Roseman at 788-4113 for assistance or more information. It's your future. Vote for it!

## Public Lands Day clean up

As part of the Keep Fort Monroe Beautiful initiative, the 11th annual National Public Lands Day will be observed by caring for land on post. Join in on Sept. 17 from 9 a.m. to noon for clean up or planting in several areas on post.

- Dog Beach clean up – Meet at the observation tower (near the osprey nest, past the RV park).
- Tree plantings along Mill Creek's riparian buffer – Meet at the observation tower.
- Flower planting around Building 5 – Meet on the parade field.

All of work is being done by volunteers. Post employees only are authorized to volunteer with supervisor's approval in an on-duty status. Choose your event and confirm participation through Grady Wesson, 788-5264; or Peter VanDyke, 788-2444. Contact Wesson for more information. Volunteer support is needed!

## Hazardous waste collection

The Virginia Peninsula Public Service Authority will accept household hazardous waste from Fort Monroe, Wherry Housing and Hampton residents Sept. 18 and Nov. 20 from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. at the Hampton Public Works Operations yard, 419 North Armistead Avenue. For more information about types of household hazardous waste accepted, visit <http://fort-monroe.army.mil/dpw/hazwaste.asp>

## ROCKS meet

The Hampton Roads Chapter of ROCKS Inc. will hold a general meeting Sept. 7 at 6:30 p.m. at the Hampton University Army ROTC Department, Armstrong-Slater Hall. Active, reserve and retired commissioned and warrant officers are welcome. Junior officers and senior ROTC cadets are encouraged to attend.

The guest speakers will be Col. Lilton Marks, HQ TRADOC Chief of Chaplains; Col. Charles Boaz, TRADOC IG; and Lt. Col. Linwood Wright, TRADOC EO Office, who will brief and participate in a panel discussion on the roles of their respective organizations in the United States Army. For more information contact Capt. Harriett Lee-Newman at (757) 836-3945.

See NEWS CLIPS, Page 7

4X12

2X2

# Celebration of heritage brings colonel back to post

Retired Army Col. Joseph O. Rodriguez Jr. will be the featured speaker for the installation's National Hispanic Heritage Month Ceremony starting at 1 p.m., Sept. 20, at the post theater.

The 90-minute program is free to the public and tickets are not required. A sign language interpreter will be on site for the program.

Rodriguez's talk will focus on the national observance theme: "Hispanic

Americans: Making a Difference in Our Communities and Our Nation."

Raised in San Antonio, Texas, Rodriquez was commissioned as an infantry officer through ROTC. He served with distinction as a leader and commander in combat units throughout the Army and around the world, and is a decorated combat veteran of Desert Storm.

Rodriquez has worked on numerous projects of national importance includ-

ing the Strategic Defense Initiative and handled important TRADOC responsibilities on projects such as Army After Next, the Stryker Armored Vehicles and Future Combat Systems. Before retiring from active duty in June, he served as Inspector General, Headquarters, TRADOC.

Entertainment on the program will include students from Hampton public schools. The Spratley Rhythm Project, a steel drum group from Spratley

Middle School will perform. Artwork and choral reading by pupils from Merrimac Elementary School is scheduled.

The Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence, TRADOC, is sponsoring this observance.

The Post Theater, Building 42, is located on Tidball Road.

For those requiring more information, contact Capt. Kenneth Crawford or Denita Caffery at 788-3113 or 788-4300.



**Joseph O. Rodriguez**  
**Colonel, U.S. Army**  
**(retired)**

## More Hispanic heritage celebratory events

A bazaar and exhibit are planned during the month-long celebration of Hispanic heritage. Specific dates are forthcoming, and events include Latin dance lessons, food sampling and displays. Also, students from Poquoson Elementary School will perform Latin songs, dance and poems. The PX, fitness center and library will have Hispanic-themed displays.

Call Capt. Kenneth Crawford at 788-3113 or Denita Caffery at 788-4300 for more information.

4X10.5

2X7.5

# NEWS CLIPS

Continued from Page 4

## Emergency radio

The City of Hampton recently signed an agreement with WLRT 1490 AM to become the official radio station to broadcast Hampton-exclusive information on the 15 and 45 minute mark of every hour during an emergency situation.

Tune in by radio or online at [www.racetalklive.com](http://www.racetalklive.com) during a local emergency.

Keep a battery-operated radio and extra batteries as part of an emergency-preparedness kit.

Visit <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/HAW2/english/basics.shtml> for more information on emergency preparedness.

## Historical meeting

The Historical and Archaeological Society of Fort Monroe will meet Sept. 13 at 11:30 a.m. at the Siren restaurant in Phoebus.

Guest speaker Richard Askew will offer a dramatic presentation commemorating Edgar Allan Poe's last visit to Fort Monroe. The meeting is open to the public.

For more information contact David Johnson at 788-3935.

## Native American month planning

Representatives from TRADOC's operations and training directorate are currently planning Fort Monroe events for this year's Native American

Heritage Month observance, Nov. 1 to 30.

Soldiers, family members and civilian employees are invited to join the committee.

If interested in assisting with planning and coordinating events, contact Rudy Boisseau at 788-2983 or [rudy.boisseau@monroe.army.mil](mailto:rudy.boisseau@monroe.army.mil); or William Endres at 788-3086 or [william.endres@monroe.army.mil](mailto:william.endres@monroe.army.mil).

## Monroe blood drive

A blood drive will be held at the Community Activities Center Sept. 8 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. To check updated blood donor eligibility criteria, visit the regional Red Cross Web site at [www.redcross.org/](http://www.redcross.org/)

[midatlanticblood](#).

## Marine Corps ball

Current and former Marines, and their friends, are invited to take part in the 229th U.S. Marine Corps Birthday Ball hosted by Commander, Marine Forces Atlantic, Nov. 10 at the Chesapeake Conference Center.

For tickets, call Chief Warrant Officer Tammy Franklin at 836-1548 or 647-6685 (cellular). Tickets go on sale Sept. 30.

## Marathon volunteers

Hundreds of volunteers are needed for the fourth annual Rock 'n' Roll Half Marathon on Labor Day weekend. Call 428-2176.

<div><div><div>MP</div><div>Roll Call</div></div><div>July Post Crime Statistics</div></div>	
Medical emergencies - 6	Damage to government property - 2
Fire alarms - 3	DWI - 2
Alarm activations - 9	Assault - 1
Traffic accident resulting in damage to private property W/O injury - 2	Indecent acts upon a child - 1
Damage to private property- 3	Indecent exposure- 1
	Larceny- 2

3X7
-----

3X10
------

# 7-Eleven employees save papers for troops

**BY PATRICIA RADCLIFFE**  
CASEMATE STAFF WRITER

Amidst a nearby 7-Eleven’s donuts, Big Gulps and cheese-covered hotdogs, Lt. Col. Frank Rodriguez, found something troops deployed to Afghanistan would truly be excited about – down-home, American news.

“When I talk to the Soldiers in the TAG (Training Assistance Group), they want to know what the news is at home,” said Rodriguez who, as Chief, Training Assistance Group-Afghanistan National Army Coordination Cell, talks with Soldiers in Afghanistan almost daily.

“I also know that the majority of them are from Texas,” he said, emphasizing his dilemma of “getting his arms around” news from the Lone Star State while stationed here in the Old Dominion.

“There are many good newspapers out there, but USA Today is the only one that has a section with news from all 50 states and four territories,” Rodriguez said.

So he approached Phoebus 7-Eleven manager James Plummer and asked what became of newspapers that didn’t sell. Rodriguez then presented his idea of harvesting the day-old USA Todays for the Soldiers serving in the TAG.

“I thought it was a fantastic idea, so I talked to the (7-Eleven headquarters) people and they agreed to it with just one phone call. They said that they appreciate what the Soldiers are doing. We obviously can’t do a whole lot for them, but this is one thing we can do,” Plummer said.

Working as a team since December, the 7-Eleven employees and ANA-TAG members have set up a sort of relay for moving papers from Hampton to Kabul.

On the night shift, 7-Eleven employee James Urban intercepts the previous day’s papers before hurried delivery people have an opportunity to replace them with current ones, stash them in their trucks and drive off.

He puts them aside and Plummer holds them until Rodriguez or one of his cohorts – Capt. Victor Santos, logistics officer, and Lt. Col. Jeff Adkinson, operations officer – picks them up the next day.

“It takes from eight to 10 days for the papers to get to the 75 or so members of the TAG, but we are sure they migrate to the over 2,000 Soldiers in Kabul,” Rodriguez said.

Although the 7-Eleven employees have insisted on sending other items, like a sack load of gum, the continuous supply of newspapers



Photo by Patricia Radcliffe

***7-Eleven manager James Plummer, right, fingers a commander’s coin presented to him by Lt. Col. Frank Rodriguez. Plummer and his staff also received a certificate of appreciation signed by the commander of ANA-TAG currently serving in Afghanistan. The gifts showed the troops’ gratitude for the continuous encouragement they receive because the convenience store staff supplies newspapers.***

seem to be the greatest gift.

“I think it’s great that we can do this. It is good because it is the only connection they have with their hometown,” Urban said.

Urban mentioned that even during short vacation trips, “it is

always great when you can find something that mentions where you are from.”

“The troops really appreciate being able to stay in touch with a little bit of home,” Rodriguez said.

6X7

Casemate Community Connection luncheon, Sept. 9, 10 a.m., at the Bay Breeze Community Center. Call 224-6447 for reservations.

# Thrift Shop moves, reopens soon



Photo by IT1 Irhoda Alston

**Volunteer Petty Officer 1st Class Orlando Coronado wrestles with a display case during the Thrift Shop's move recently. The Thrift Shop will reopen Sept. 14 at its new location, Building 247, where the staff and volunteers plan to continue raising monies to use as contributions to the community through scholarships and welfare assistance. Building 247 is a small brick building located by Walker Air Field, across from the Bay Breeze Community Center. Sept. 14 and 17 are set aside as days personnel can become familiar with the new building and some new rules. Therefore, no consignments will be accepted those two days. Hours of operation are Tuesday and Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Consignments are received between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. For more information, call 788-2566. Volunteers are always welcome.**

# Scouts seek new members

The Fort Monroe Girl Scouts are looking for members and volunteers. Girls from kindergarten through high school are welcome to join. There are also opportunities for adults to serve as leaders and volunteers. For more information, call Terry Richey at 723-5559 or Vicky Cassem at 224-3634.

## August

### Yard of the Month

The Office of the Post Command Sergeant Major recently announced the winners for the August Yard of the Month competition. They are:

- Ingalls 1 – CW3 Coral and Derrick Jones
- Reeder Circle – Sgt. 1st Class Craig and Renee Johnson
- Commissary – Sgt. Chuck and Eleanor Griffin
- Ingalls II – Maj. William and Julie Overby and Maj. Mark and Heather McCann
- Moat Officer – Command Sgt. Maj. Major and Elaine Washington
- Moat Walk – Sgt James and Kim Nelson
- Monroe Apartments – Sgt. Maj. Michael and Terri Lamb

One Yard of the Month judging session remains — Sept. 13.

# CAC helps kids learn

Youth Services maintains a homework center and provides tutoring by Virginia certified teachers who also conduct SOL study sessions during the school year at the Community Activities Center.

A computer lab is available with a technician to help students with various computer programs.

The hours are Monday through Thursday, from 4 to 7 p.m., and Saturday from 3 to 6 p.m. Saturday hours may vary depending on youth participation. These services are open to all YS members and tutoring is covered by the \$15 annual membership fee.

2X4

4X7



## Celebrating Fort Monroe History

# Continental Park gazebo marks 70th year as post's main entertainment center

BY DAVID J. JOHNSON  
CASEMATE MUSEUM

This year marks the 70th anniversary of the Continental Park gazebo, a structure that is officially known as Building No. 4. Since April of 1934 the gazebo has primarily been used for band concerts but occasionally for weddings, Christmas tree lighting ceremonies and other events.

The gazebo is in the middle of a park where the second Hygeia Hotel once stood. The hotel had its own band pavilion that was built over the water a little further down the seawall from the present bandstand. Even after the hotel closed and was demolished in 1902, the pavilion remained in use by various Army bands stationed at Fort Monroe until it was destroyed by a hurricane in August 1933.

A period of economic depression and tight military budgets was not exactly conducive to a low-priority project such as a new bandstand, so this item appeared to be a non-starter. However, that conventional wisdom did not factor in an extremely determined and energetic individual named Harrington W. Cochran.

Under Fort Monroe's command structure at that time, the same brigadier general served as commanding general, post commander and commandant of the Coast Artillery School, leaving the subordinate position of post adjutant with an unusual amount of responsibility—and power. Captain Cochran was placed in charge of several key construction projects, including a sewage treatment plant, a reinforced seawall and a new bridge over Mill Creek. A gazebo was not on the list.

***A period of economic depression and tight military budgets was not exactly conducive to a low-priority project such as a new bandstand, so this item appeared to be a non-starter.***

Cochran recalled seeing plans for an Army bandstand and requested a copy from the Quartermaster General's Office. The structure in question was intended for the Army Medical Center in Washington in 1924 but was never built because of its cost.

With no formal training as an architect, Cochran made substantial revisions to the plans and set about transforming sketches into reality. Cheap labor could be supplied in abundance by the federal Works Progress Administration (WPA) and a Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camp located on the post. Two snapshots in the adjutant's diary indicate that the foundation was begun in December of 1933. The columns were in place by March 7, and the entire structure was completed several weeks later. The next reference is April 7, 1934:

"We tried out the Band in the new band pavilion this morning and the acoustics were excellent—much to my relief as I was afraid that lips at the top of its columns which contains the indirect lighting would produce an echo."

On the following page Cochran placed two snapshots of the event, noting that "This struc-



Photo contributed by Casemate Museum

***Fort Monroe's 2nd Coast Artillery Band poses for a photo in the "new" post pavilion around May of 1934.***



Photo by Patrick Buffett

***The U.S. Continental Army Band warms up for their Aug. 19 Music Under the Stars performance at the Continental Park gazebo, which required extensive repairs after Hurricane Isabel.***

ture is my 'maiden' attempt as an architect."

On that occasion Warrant Officer Michael A. Quinto directed the 2nd Coast Artillery Regiment Band. This ensemble continued to present concerts at the gazebo until 1944, when it was redesignated as the 69th Army Ground Forces Band. Two years later this unit was succeeded by the 50th Army Band, which remained at Fort Monroe until 1972, when it was replaced by the present organization. Several years ago the Continental Army Band headquarters (Building No. 9) was officially named Quinto Hall.

The gazebo's risers were replaced in 1967, and most of the original windows suffered damage, but otherwise it remained virtually unchanged for decades. The structure managed to weather many storms without incident, but it did not fare as well against Hurricane Isabel on September 18, 2003. According to Rob McRacken of DPW,

the steel reinforcing the wooden columns had rusted, and the area under the stage had flooded, ruining the electrical system. New Fiberglas columns were installed, the front steps were renovated and the wiring was replaced.

Post Environmental Scientist Pam Schenian noted that the contractor, Tesoro, also replaced the basement door and the riser. New railings were installed that are no longer attached to the columns. The foundation was strengthened with steel beams, and lead-based paint was removed from most surfaces. Although unforeseen problems kept cropping up during this project, the repairs and reconstruction were completed in about three months.

Barring an even worse catastrophe, the gazebo should continue to provide the setting for outdoor concerts and other post functions for many years to come.





Photos by Patrick Buffett

## Music Under the Stars

### Brass blast

*With a variety of music styles — ranging from the classical “Hungarian Rhapsody” to the jazzy barbershop quartet number “Ice Cream” — the Boston Brass delighted the audience during The U.S. Continental Army Band’s “Music Under the Stars” performance Aug. 19 at Continental Park. Pictured above are Boston Brass members (l-r) J. D. Shaw, Richard Kelley, Andrew Hitz, Jeff Connor and Ed Clough. Pictured right are TUSCAB members (l-r) Staff Sgt. Frank D. McCaskill, Sgt. Dennis M. McCollum, Spc. Hu Li, Sgt. Jason E. Bemis, Staff Sgt. Stephen D. Keuning, Spc. Chad R. Parsons and Spc. David A. Jones. TUSCAB wrapped up its 2004 MUTS season Thursday evening with their “1812 Overture” performance. The evening included a guest appearance by the U.S. Army Chorus. The overture finale was accompanied by 105mm Howitzer cannons, manned by a firing detail from Headquarters Company, Fort Monroe.*



## Moat Monsters make money through MUTS fundraiser

**BY NATHAN CLAPSADDLE**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Boy Scouts of Fort Monroe Troop 31, the Moat Monsters, wrapped up another successful season of fundraising Thursday evening during the final Music Under the Stars concert at Continental Park.

Selling hotdogs and sodas from their booth, the scouts learned about work ethic and helped raise funds to cover operating expenses for the troop and also to assist in paying for their summer camp.

The hotdog stand has been a mainstay for years during the summer. Regular customers show up every Thursday ready for dinner and polite conversation with the scouts.

Because of the success of the hotdog sales each year, the scouts are able to enjoy several camping trips and fun adventures. Among those trips this year were camping at Gettysburg, Pa. and Sandy Bottom Nature Park in Newport News. They also traveled to Timberline Ski Resort for a weekend of adventure skiing and to Fort Story to do some surfing. The scouts returned from a week at Camp Goshen Aug. 7, where they had the opportunity to gain merit badges through experiences there.

Anyone interested in joining the troop is welcome. The meetings are Thursdays at 7 p.m. inside the Moat, next to The U.S. Continental Army Band’s building. The new scout year

begins Sept. 9. Contact Scoutmaster Bob Wood at 861-6817 for more information.

Boys must be 11 years old or beginning the sixth grade to join.

Many thanks to all who supported our hot-dog booth during this summer.



Photo by Patrick Buffett

**Nathan Clapsaddle, left, and Andrew Cal serve a customer during the Aug. 19 MUTS concert.**

## Post MWR kicks off family photo contest

Fort Monroe MWR kicked off its Army Family Photo Contest Thursday, and interested participants now have just over a week to turn in their entries.

Meant to generate awareness and support for the 2004 Survey of Army Families V that’s about to be distributed by mail to roughly 60,000 families service-wide, the Monroe photo contest will highlight the unique qualities that make each family different while accentuating the similarities that bind Army families together.

It is up to each entrant to define what “Army Family” means to them. For example, while many may see “family” as a spouse and children or children only, others may wish to include immediate or extended family members, close friends and neighbors. Even a pet can be included as a family member for purposes of the contest.

Contest entries are limited to two photos per family.

The deadline for photo submission is Sept. 7. Entries can be placed in the drop box at the front desk of the fitness center or sent electronically to [inglinse@monroe.army.mil](mailto:inglinse@monroe.army.mil). All submissions must include name, address, phone number and email if available.

Judging to determine finalists will be by the MWR Marketing Department. Winners will be  
**See CONTEST, Page 13**



# Sports & Health

**Got any sports results?  
Need to advertise an upcoming event?**  
Give us a call at 788-3208 or e-mail [casemate@monroe.army.mil](mailto:casemate@monroe.army.mil).



Photos by Patrick Buffett

## Stars spank Stripes 15-7 in fifth matchup

*With solid batting and aggressive plays at the plate, the Fort Monroe Stars, pictured right, bested the top-three-enlisted Stripes 15-7 at DeRussy Field Aug. 20. The fervor of the continuing officer/NCO matchups energized outspoken fans like Sgt. Maj. Timothy Pentecost, pictured far right, and led to aggressive plays like a Star player's battle for second base, pictured above, against Stripes' player Sgt. Maj. Karen Dilullo in the late innings.*



## 'Bowl' promises patrons new leagues, prizes

**BY CHUCK MCINTYRE**  
BOWLING CENTER PROGRAM DIRECTOR

If you missed the grand re-opening of the renovated Fort Monroe Bowling Center Aug. 13, don't sweat it ... you can still "cash-in" on some other fabulous prizes now being offered.

The "Bowling Bucks" promotion lasts through Oct. 10, with every purchase of \$5 or more going toward a collectible plush bowling pin, a ball or bear, and other bowling related items (while they last).

You can also save your Bowling Bucks for the Auction Party at the end of the promotion. You will be able to bid for a Giant 36-inch Striker Toy and

other fabulous prizes.

Monroe Bowl is also hosting a "PBA Tour." Come in, cool off and bowl 12 games for a choice of either a bowling pin bank or a bowling towel. Bowl 25 games and earn a bowling bag. Ask for your PBA Tour punch card prior to open bowling.

And the Laneside Grill is now open for breakfast. Come by and start your day off right with a great breakfast at the very best prices around. If you're thinking early morning coffee/breakfast meeting, The Bowl is the place. Advance scheduling is recommended for larger meetings.

The Bowl's fall leagues are also form-

ing with all starting dates scheduled for next month.

The competition this year includes a "Rolling Rookie League" for bowlers both new to the game as well as individual players without a team who want to bowl in the league.

The popular Wednesday NASCAR League will be back for its second season and space is still available for more teams.

Another added feature this year will be "managed leagues" ... we do all the work, i.e., secretary, treasurer, in-house banking, and providing statistics/league standing sheets. All you have to do is come have fun and bowl.

Finally, our new lighting and sound system — used primarily for revolution bowling on Friday and Saturday evenings and for birthday and private parties — is out-of-this world. You have to come out and see it for yourself. That, along with vastly improved scoring and new pinsetters/lanes will make your bowling experience a most enjoyable venture.

For more information about leagues, open bowling, team requirements or any facet of the new Fort Monroe Bowl operation, call 788-2939.



*'The Bowl' is a Fort  
Monroe MWR  
sponsored program*

**A ribbon-cutting ceremony Aug. 13 marks the official grand reopening of the newly renovated Fort Monroe Bowling Center. Participating in the ceremony are (l-r) Ron Finchum, Gerald Wilson, garrison commander Col. Perry D. Allmendinger, Walter "Chip" Wikan, and Director of Community and Family Activities Paul Heilman. Along with food and door prizes, the event also featured a match between members of the PBA and the local area. Finchum rolled a 220, earning high game for the local team. Wikan had high series with a 558.**



## Earn while you burn

The fitness center is adding extra incentive to its exercise programs.

Participants in the 6:30 a.m., Monday, fat burn cycle class can earn free coffee or tea from Fitside Perk for every four classes attended.

Fitlinxx members whose reports indicate 75-100 percent compliance for the month of September will participate in a prize drawing, as will participants in the new REPS Strength Self Challenge.

Weight lifters with the highest recorded lifts will also be entered in a drawing for MWR prizes.

For more info, contact Jeanette Coffman, Fitness & Wellness Program Coordinator, at 788-4771 or [Fitness@monroe.army.mil](mailto:Fitness@monroe.army.mil).



# Helpers sought for ‘Day of Caring’

Schools, churches and elderly care centers are just some of the organizations that benefit from the Peninsula’s annual Day of Caring that’s coming up Sept. 10.

About 1,000 people loaned their skills last year with many of them coming from the military ranks. Carolyn Kincaid, executive director of the Volunteer Center of the Virginia Peninsula, told the Casemate she’s hoping for even more volunteers this year.

“We would not be able to exist ... if we were not able to engage the military volunteers that we have. We depend on them every day. I send out opportunities four or five times a week to military installations,” Kincaid said.

Installing smoke detectors for seniors, visiting the local veteran’s hospital, painting and landscaping are some of the events scheduled for the Day of Caring.

Kincaid emphasized the desire for teams because they can be placed on projects intact. But she quickly added that individuals are always welcome.

For further information and volunteer sign-up forms, visit [www.volunteerpeninsula.org](http://www.volunteerpeninsula.org) or call 262-0190. The Web site also lists other volunteer opportunities in the Hampton Roads area.

## CONTEST Continued from Page 11

contacted by Sept. 9. Prizes include: MWR gift certificates — to include a free Sunday brunch coupon for up to six people for the first place winner and four people for second place; a pair of insulated coffee mugs; and a half-day free Privateer boat rental from the Marina for the third place finisher. At least the top two winning photographs (depending on available space) will also be published in the Sept. 10 edition of the Casemate.

For more information, contact Shae Inglin, MWR Marketing, at 788-3296 or the email address listed above.

The Survey of Army Families – conducted once every four years – will begin arriving in randomly selected mailboxes belonging to Army households in early September. The evaluation is specifically for Army spouses, allowing them the opportunity to speak their minds about such issues as: housing; relocation; paid and volunteer work; children’s activities; health care; morale, welfare and recreation; and deployments.

Further information about the survey is available at the Army MWR Web site at [www.armymwr.com](http://www.armymwr.com).

3X7

6X7

# MoatNotes

## UPCOMING SPOTLIGHT EVENTS

Soldier Appreciation Day . . . . . Sept. 2 | Post Organization Day . . . . . Sept. 10  
Bloodmobile . . . . . Sept. 8 | POW/MIA Day . . . . . Sept. 14  
Newcomers Orientation . . . . . Sept. 9 | Town Hall Meeting . . . . . Sept. 17  
For more on these and other upcoming events, see calendar below or other stories and briefs in this issue.



### Aug. 27

#### 'Hollywood' symphony

The City of Newport News will host a free outdoor concert featuring the Virginia Symphony this evening at Oyster Point Fountain Plaza. The performance begins at 7 p.m.

Guests will be treated to the symphony's nostalgic rendition of movie music, with film scores from such favorites as "An American in Paris" and "Phantom of the Opera." Conducted by Shizuo Kuwahara, the show promises toe-tapping excitement for the whole family.

Oyster Point Plaza is located on Town Center Drive. From I-64, use exit 256A, Oyster Point Road, turn left on Thimble Shoals Blvd., and make another left onto Town Center.

Additional performances of the Virginia Symphony's "Score One for Hollywood" show are planned for Saturday at the Victory Monument, Main Street, Yorktown and Sunday at Chesapeake Jubilee Park. For more information, visit the symphony's Web site: [www.virginiasympphony.org](http://www.virginiasympphony.org).

#### Starlight Cinema

The City of Portsmouth presents its final "Starlight Cinema" event today from 8 to 10 p.m. at the city park amphitheater.

Children and grownups alike will enjoy one of Disney's newest family adventures – "Peter Pan." The event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be available for purchase at the concessions stand.

For more information, call 393-8481.

#### Moonlight fishing

Take advantage of the cool night temperatures and calm waters with a little moonlight fishing from 6 p.m. to midnight tonight at Beaverdam Park.

Participants are reminded that operational navigation lights on your boat are a requirement in the park, as well as a valid fishing permit. The park's main entrance will remain open for this event. The Fary's Mill Road entrance will be closed.

Beaverdam Park is located at 8687 Roaring Springs Road, Gloucester. For more information, call (804) 693-2107.

### Aug. 28

#### Soul Music Beachfest

Sand, surf and music are the offerings of the 2nd Annual Soul Music Beachfest that kicks off Sat-

## Cop Wash



Photo by Patricia Radcliffe

**Spc. Miguel Bures dries a truck windshield during the 233rd Military Police Detachment's car wash Tuesday. Proceeds will help fund the military police officers' ball planned for Sept. 3.**

urday at the Beachstreet Seaside Palladium in Virginia Beach.

Against the rhythmic background of the Atlantic Ocean, music lovers explore the African origins of today's diversified music genres including soft rock, jazz and R&B. The two-day festival features food, ethnic arts and crafts, and local, regional and national entertainment.

This event is free and open to the public. Guests are encouraged to bring beach towels or lawn chairs. For more information, visit [www.beacheventsfun.com](http://www.beacheventsfun.com).

#### Mystery history tour

Edgar Allan Poe, Pocahontas, Richard Decatur Lee and several other 19th century characters will visit the grounds of Lee Hall Mansion Saturday to help visitors complete the great Mystery History Tour.

During this family-oriented event, guests will hunt for clues on the grounds and interview the visiting literary and historical giants. Performances will take place at 6 and 7 p.m. Reservations are required. The cost is \$7 per person.

Lee Hall Mansion is located just north of Newport News Park. From I-64, take exit 247 and follow the trailblazing signs. For more information, call 888-3371 or visit [www.leehall.org](http://www.leehall.org).

### Sept. 1

#### Tony Bennett

Celebrate the grand opening of the first phase of the Ferguson Center for the Arts, Newport News, with a memorable performance by an icon of American entertainment – Tony Bennett – Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

For more than five decades, Bennett has captivated audiences with his distinct vocal quality and commanding presence. He has remained one of the leading singers of traditional pop songs and, most incredibly, brought this music and his vocal style to the MTV generation through groundbreaking music videos and his Grammy-winning 1994 Album of the Year "MTV Unplugged." Bennett received yet another Grammy for his most recent album titled "What a Wonderful World."

Tickets for the show start at \$125 and can be purchased at the Ferguson Center box office located on the campus of Christopher Newport University. To reserve tickets by phone or for additional information, call 594-8752 or visit [www.cnu.edu](http://www.cnu.edu).

#### Back-to-school crafts

Children ages 7 to 12 are invited to take part in two special back-to-

school craft programs sponsored by the Newport News Public Library system.

During the "Make It, Take It" program hosted by the Main Street Library Wednesday, participants will build a fun and functional desk organizer that they will be allowed to take home with them. The program starts at 4 p.m. and will last about two hours.

The Bailey Library program – "Craft Central" – Friday will offer a variety of crafts to encourage creativity and interest in art among participants. Hours are 2 to 4 p.m.

Both programs are free. For more information or to register for these programs, call 247-8875.

### Sept. 3

#### Music festival

The Isley Brothers, Collective Soul and the B-52s are just a few of the big-name musical groups that will explode onto stages throughout Virginia Beach during the Verizon Wireless American Music Festival Sept. 3 through 6.

Nearly 50 concerts that promise to touch every generation and music style are planned for this 11th annual event. Festival hours are 4:30 to 11 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday and 12:30 to 6 p.m., Monday.

All musical performances will take place at the 17th and 24th street stages and at the 5th and 29th Street beach stages.

The festival will also feature the 4th Annual Rock-'n-Roll Half Marathon Sept. 5. More than 17,500 participants from the U.S. and countries around the world are expected to take part in this year's run.

For more information – to include a complete list of concerts, their locations and ticket prices – visit [www.beacheventsfun.com](http://www.beacheventsfun.com).

#### At The Movies

Showing at the Langley Air Force Base and Fort Eustis Theaters

Friday, Aug. 27

7 p.m. — Catwoman (PG-13)

Saturday, Aug. 28

2 p.m. — A Cinderella Story (PG)

Friday, Sept. 3

7 p.m. — Thunderbirds (PG)

Saturday, Sept. 4

2 p.m. — Bourne Supremacy (PG-13)

7 p.m. — Bourne Supremacy (PG-13)

Adults \$2, children 6-12 years old \$1.50 and children under 6 are free. If a child under 6 occupies a seat at a G-rated movie, admission is \$1.50. Special movie showings are available. Contact John Low at [LowJ@aafes.com](mailto:LowJ@aafes.com) or 766-1237 for details.

Sept. 4

Kids fishing

The secrets to catching bigger fish, and the basics of angler safety, will be the focus of a kid’s fishing program hosted by Sandy Bottom Nature Park, Newport News, Sept. 4 from 10 to 11:30 a.m.

Participants will not only learn about the different types of bait, but also the various techniques experienced anglers use to reel in the whoppers. The program is open to children age 15 and under. Fishing poles are available at the park for those who cannot bring one of their own.

An adult must accompany all children. Space is limited to 20 children, so those interested are encouraged to sign-up for the program as early as possible. There is a \$2 fee per child participant. Sandy Bottom Park is located on Big Bethel Road. Use exit 261A off I-64. For more information or to register, call 825-4657.

Street dance

Olde Towne Portsmouth will host a street dance featuring Fat Ammon and The Mystic Soul Bubbas Sept. 4 from 8 to 11 p.m., at North Landing (in front of the Portsmouth Visitor Information Center).

The event is part of the “Mile Marker Zero Rendezvous,” an annu-

al social event for owners of powerboats and yachts. Proceeds from Anheuser-Busch and Coca-Cola products sold at the dance will benefit the Elizabeth River Project, a non-profit organization that promotes waterway restoration and conservation.

For more information about the street dance, call 393-5111.

March of Dimes ride

Close to 400 motorcyclists are expected to join the Greater Hampton Roads March of Dimes ride and fundraiser to help fight premature birth Sept. 4 beginning at Chesapeake City Park.

The event is open to all motorcyclists. Interested riders can sign up by contacting the local March of Dimes chapter at 361-0000. The registration fee is \$25, which includes a t-shirt, the official ride pin and lunch. Prior to the event, riders will be encouraged to collect contributions from family, friends and coworkers.

Further information can also be found on the March of Dimes website: [www.marchofdimes.com](http://www.marchofdimes.com).

Sept. 9

Square dance class

Fort Monroe community members are welcome to participate in a new square dance class that begins Sept. 9 at Palmer Elementary

School, Newport News.

The classes will be held every Thursday from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. The first two lessons are free. Enrollment fees for continued classes are used to pay for dance callers, cleanup and organization administrative costs.

For more information, call Bruce or Donna Powell at 356-9303 or Harry Keys at 865-1331.

Volunteer orientation

Volunteer tutors are needed for Peninsula READS, a non-profit organization that strives for adult education, literacy and services to build a community where everyone can read.

Morning and afternoon orientation sessions for interested volunteers are scheduled for Sept. 9. The morning session runs from 10 a.m. to noon, and an evening session runs from 6 to 8 p.m.

Volunteer tutors will help adult learners improve basic reading and writing skills and provide “survival English” skills to foreign-born adults. For more information, call 283-5776 or visit [www.peninsulareads.org](http://www.peninsulareads.org).

Sept. 10

Family canoeing

Families can enjoy a cool evening, experience nature at twilight and learn the basics of canoe-

ing all at the same time during a special program sponsored by Sandy Bottom Nature Park, Newport News, Sept. 10 from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Participants will receive a short class on canoeing terminology and safety before joining a park ranger on the calm waters of Crystal Lake. An adult must accompany all children 17 and under for this family-oriented program.

The registration deadline for the canoe trip is 3 p.m., Sept. 8. Space is limited to 24 participants, so sign up early. The cost is \$4 per person.

Sandy Bottom Park is located on Big Bethel Road. Use exit 261A off I-64. For more information or to register, call 825-4657.

Library book sale

Secondhand children’s books, adult novels, how-to manuals and other print materials will be sold at very low prices during the Main Street Library, Newport News, “Wipe-Out Sale” from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sept. 9 and 10 a.m. until all books are gone Sept. 11.

All proceeds from the book sale benefit the library program. Shoppers are encouraged to arrive early for the best selection of titles. For more information, call 247-8875.

**Friday’s at the Fort**  
Bay Breeze Community Center  
5 - 8 p.m.  
**Tonight’s guest DJ - Cliff Rock!**

3X7

3X7



# MWR opens Marina to more customers

Theresa Grogan, Fort Monroe's Old Point Comfort Marina manager, is smiling a lot these days at the prospect of seeing more boaters use her facility, which is well equipped and close to good fishing and boating haunts in the Hampton Roads area.

Post MWR officials have announced that all federal active and retired employees now have full access to services at the marina. The new access action also includes nonappropriated fund civilians. Reservists and National Guardsmen, and contractors working on Fort Monroe will continue to have full access. Public access to the marina is also authorized but limited.

"We've been trying to extend this opportunity to all non-DoD federal employees for quite some time," said Don Van Patten, MWR project manager. "I know there are a lot of Veterans Affairs Medical Center and NASA employees, in particular, that have been looking forward to this opportunity."

Owned and operated by the Army, the marina offers a full complement of services. These include: 314 floating slips and temporary dockage for vessels up to 50 feet; a dockside water boat ramp; fishing boat rentals; a floating fuel dock – gas and diesel; and a full-service maintenance facility that includes an indoor maintenance bay and wet slip supported by a six-ton lift.

Boaters will also find bathroom, shower and laundry washing facilities, a ship's store, and a restaurant.

"When you think of the large military complex that occupies the Hampton Roads area, you realize how vital this tremendous facility will become in support of boating enthusiasts who can now depend on the Old Point Comfort Marina as their home base," Grogan said.

For those needing information on the marina's services, fees and hours of operation for all facilities, contact Grogan at 788-4308.



Photos by Patrick Buffett



## Awesome aquatics

*Photo above: Local racer Scott Liddycoat in his boat "Team Extreme," left, edges ahead of his closest competitor to win a Grand National Hydro qualifying heat during the Hampton Cup Regatta here Aug. 20-22. Photo center left: Randy Brown-ing, left, and John Cleary retrieve the 1.0 liter modified racer "Beach Bum," driven by Jason Brown-ing, from Mill Creek following a qualifying heat. Photo bottom left: A "Jersey Skiff" skims the water during the competition.*

3X7

3X7